

The listing of claims presented below replaces all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

1. (Withdrawn) Water purification composition, comprising an aqueous phase which contains from 5 to 10,000 micrograms of selenium per liter.
2. (Withdrawn) Composition according to claim 1, comprising an aqueous phase which contains from 5 to 500 micrograms of selenium per liter.
3. (Withdrawn) Composition according to claim 1, wherein the aqueous phase is chosen from among water to which Selenium has been added or the water from the Ein Bokek springs of Israel.
4. (Withdrawn) Composition according to claim 1, subjected to reverse osmosis.
5. (Withdrawn) Composition according to claim 1, subjected to acidification by the addition of 0.1-10 wt% of acids.
6. (Withdrawn) Composition comprising an aqueous phase which contains from 5 to 10,000 micrograms of selenium per liter and one or more natural or mixtures of natural substances, chosen from the group consisting of substances having a cationic molecular charge and substances having an anionic molecular charge.
7. (Withdrawn) Composition according to claim 6, wherein the substances having a cationic molecular charge have an animal origin.
8. (Withdrawn) Composition according to claim 6, wherein the substances having an

anionic molecular charge have a vegetable origin.

9. (Withdrawn) Composition according to claim 7, wherein the substances having a cationic molecular charge have a charge deriving from amino groups having molecular weight from 5,000 to 10,000,000 Daltons.

10. (Withdrawn) Composition according to claim 9, wherein the substances are chosen from the group consisting of chitin, oligosaccharides and polysaccharides.

11. (Withdrawn) Composition according to claim 9, comprising obtaining the substances from raw materials chosen from the group consisting of shellac, shells of crustaceans, crabs, shrimps, lobsters, marine zooplankton, coral, and jelly fish, by solution or extraction.

12. (Withdrawn) Composition according to claim 6, wherein the substances having an anionic molecular charge are chosen from the group consisting of gums, fibers and cellulose.

13. (Currently amended) Water purification process, which comprises

- i) producing a composition according to claim 1 comprising an aqueous phase which contains from 5 to 10,000 micrograms of selenium per liter;
- ii) mixing said composition ~~it~~ to the water to be purified; and
- iii) removing any coagulated impurities from the mixture by any suitable separation process.

14. (Currently amended) Water purification process according to claim 13, which comprises

- i) producing ~~preparing~~ at least one composition comprising an aqueous phase which contains from 5 to 10,000 micrograms of selenium per liter and one or more natural substances selected from the group consisting of substances having a cationic molecular charge and substances having an anionic molecular charge; according to claim

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- ii) adding said composition to the water to be purified, mixing under stirring, allowing coagulated material to form in said water containing said composition;
- iii) and separating said coagulated material from said mixture.

15.(Currently amended) Water purification process according to claim 14, which comprises producing a composition comprising an aqueous phase which contains from 5 to 10,000 of selenium per liter, subjected to reverse osmosis and optionally acidified ~~adding said composition to the water to be purified, preparing a second composition according to claim 6, adding said second composition to said water to be purified, mixing under stirring, allowing coagulated material to form in said water containing said compositions, and separating said coagulated material:~~

16. (Previously presented) Process according to claim 14, wherein the coagulated material is separated by mechanical means.

17. (Currently amended) Process according to claim 14, wherein the coagulated material is separated by floating or by injecting air, and then treated ~~treating the material in batch~~ in an incinerator.

18. (Currently amended) Process according to claim 14, wherein the coagulated material is separated by introducing it into ~~an apparatus for centrifugation~~ apparatus or sedimentation apparatus for continuous treatment.

19. (Currently amended) Process according to claim 14, further comprising separating part of the water from said mixture ~~contained in it~~ and using the dry or semi-dry residue, after any appropriate treatment.

20. (Currently amended) Water purification process according to claim 13, comprising determining a turbidity index of the water to be purified and adding to the water ~~to be purified~~ a composition comprising one or more natural ~~or mixtures of natural~~ substances selected ~~chosen~~ from the group consisting of substances having a cationic molecular charge and substances having an anionic molecular charge, in an amount determined as a function of said turbidity index.

21. (Original) Process according to claim 20, wherein the function is a linear function.

22. (Currently amended) Process according to claim 20, comprising ~~for~~ the separation of beneficial materials that are obtained from an aqueous solution, comprising determining a turbidity index of said solution and adding to said solution a composition comprising one or more natural ~~or mixtures of natural~~ substances selected ~~chosen~~ from the group consisting of substances having a cationic molecular charge and substances having an anionic molecular charge, in an amount determined as a function of said turbidity index, thereby[[,]] allowing the aggregation of said beneficial materials.

23. (Original) Process according to claim 22, wherein the beneficial materials are selected from the group of starch, sugar, algal materials for nutritional or medical uses, and pro-biotic bacteria settlement.

24 - 29. (Canceled)

30. (New) Process according to claim 14, wherein said aqueous phase contains from 5 to 500 micrograms of selenium per liter.

31. (New) Process according to claim 14, wherein said aqueous phase is selected from the group consisting of water to which selenium has been added and water from the Ein Bokek springs of Israel.

32. (New) Process according to claim 14, wherein said composition is subjected to reverse osmosis.

33. (New) Process according to claim 14, wherein said composition is subjected to acidification by the addition of 0.1-10 wt% of acids.

34. (New) Process according to claim 14, wherein said substances having a cationic molecular charge are of animal origin.

35. (New) Process according to claim 14, wherein said substances having an anionic molecular charge are of vegetable origin.

36. (New) Process according to claim 14, wherein said substances having a cationic molecular charge have a charge derived from amino groups, and their molecular weight is from 5,000 to 10,000,000 Daltons.

37. (New) Process according to claim 36, wherein said substances are selected from the group consisting of oligosaccharides and polysaccharides.

38. (New) Process according to claim 37, wherein said substances comprise chitin,

38. (New) Process according to claim 36, comprising obtaining, by solution or extraction, substances from raw materials selected from the group consisting of shellac, shells of crustaceans, crabs, shrimps, lobsters, marine zooplankton, coral, and jelly fish,

39. (New) Process according to claim 14, wherein said substances having an anionic molecular charge are selected from the group consisting of gums, fibers, and cellulose.